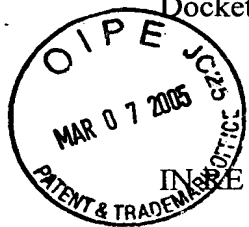


Docket No.: 0010-1108-0 CONT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Yoko ASAKURA, et al.

:

: EXAMINER: RAMIREZ, D.M.

SERIAL NO.: 09/577,005

:

FILED: MAY 25, 2000

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

FOR: METHOD OF CONSTRUCTING AMINO ACID PRODUCING BACTERIAL STRAINS, AND METHOD OF PREPARING AMINO ACIDS BY FERMENTATION WITH THE CONSTRUCTED AMINO ACID PRODUCING BACTERIAL STRAINS

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action of September 7, 2004, in the above-identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begins on page 2 of this response.

**Support for the Amendments** begins on page 7 of this response.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this response.